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Secret



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14 JUNE 1973

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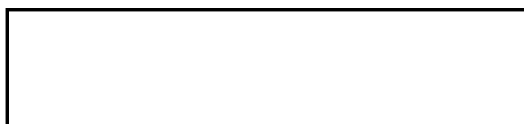
Cease-Fire Developments

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Cease-Fire Developments



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SOUTH VIETNAMThe Military Situation

Military activity has dropped sharply in the northern provinces, with no Communist shellings in Thua Thien Province for the first time in several months. Sporadic clashes are occurring in Quang Ngai Province, and in at least one area the Communists have moved closer to Route 1. The Communists are holding on to recently captured villages west of Kontum City, despite substantial government air and ground efforts. Little action is reported from the southern half of the country. South Vietnamese forces reportedly have been ordered to make an eleventh-hour effort to open Highway 1A in northeastern Binh Duong Province, using units that had been employed in the abortive Route 13 campaign.

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CAMBODIAThe Military Situation

Government forces withdrew from the village of Thnal Totung, on Route 4 west of Phnom Penh, soon after they occupied it on 13 June. The reason is not yet clear. Khmer Communists once more control Thnal Totung and have begun burning homes in the village. Other forces trying to reopen Route 4 east of Thnal Totung seem to have bogged down in the face of Communist resistance and command and supply problems. South of Thnal Totung, Cambodian troops pinned down at a sugar refinery near the Communist-held village of Kompong Tram on Route 26 reportedly are running low on ammunition. Elsewhere, the Communists continue to harass government positions along the Mekong corridor. Some insurgent troops have seized an island near Neak Luong, thereby posing a threat to the next resupply convoy that is now due to arrive in Phnom Penh from South Vietnam on 18 June.

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